

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6352

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 with respect to the position
of Chief Medical Officer.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 5, 2006

Mr. BARTON of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on
Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the
Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within
the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 with respect
to the position of Chief Medical Officer.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OF DEPARTMENT OF**
4 **HOMELAND SECURITY.**

5 Section 516 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002
6 is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 516. CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is in the Department a
3 Chief Medical Officer, who shall be appointed by the Presi-
4 dent, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

5 “(b) QUALIFICATIONS.—The individual appointed as
6 Chief Medical Officer shall possess a demonstrated ability
7 in and knowledge of medicine and public health.

8 “(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Chief Medical Officer
9 shall have the primary responsibility within the Depart-
10 ment for medical issues related to natural disasters, acts
11 of terrorism, and other man-made disasters, including—

12 “(1) serving as the principal advisor to the Sec-
13 retary and the Administrator on medical and public
14 health issues;

15 “(2) coordinating the biodefense activities of
16 the Department;

17 “(3) ensuring internal and external coordina-
18 tion of all medical preparedness and response activi-
19 ties of the Department, including training, exercises,
20 and equipment support;

21 “(4) serving as the Department’s primary point
22 of contact with the Department of Agriculture, the
23 Department of Defense, the Department of Health
24 and Human Services, the Department of Transpor-
25 tation, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and

1 other Federal departments or agencies, on medical
2 and public health issues;

3 “(5) serving as the Department’s primary point
4 of contact for State, local, and tribal governments,
5 the medical community, and others within and out-
6 side the Department, with respect to medical and
7 public health matters;

8 “(6) discharging, in coordination with the
9 Under Secretary for Science and Technology, the re-
10 sponsibilities of the Department related to Project
11 Bioshield; and

12 “(7) performing such other duties relating to
13 such responsibilities as the Secretary may require.”.

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